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BEAVERS IN THE ROCKS.

Interesting Observations About Their Curious Dams

Beavers have been an active factor in the formation of mountain parks. Not of parks such as the South, Middle and North parks in the Rocky mountains in Colorado, but those from one to eighty acres in area, that lie in the mountain solitudes surrounded by unbroken forests—parks that are covered with a dense growth of grass and willows in clumps. These parks, where feed is plentiful and cover excellent, are the favorite feeding places of elk and deer. When the sun sinks behind the snow-clad peaks the air above these peaks grows chilly, and the blood of the vampirish insects, the scourge of the mountains in early summer, circulates slowly; and, as the shadows of the pines advance across the parks, these blood-sucking insects, that fairly stiffened the light air during the heat of the day are benumbed, and by 6 o'clock in the evening, if the altitude be 11,000 feet, they have retired for the night. Then the deer rise from the thick cover in the forest, where they have lain motionless in hiding from flies, and walk slowly toward these parks to drink of the cool water, and to feed throughout the night. These parks have, almost without exception, been formed by the filling up of beaver dams.

Many years ago, long after the flow of gravel, known among placer miners as "swash gravel," had ceased, and vegetation covered the bottom of the narrow valleys that had been gouged out of the granite hills by ice and water, the beavers, searching for sites for homes, entered the mountains. Avoiding the rocky canyons and deep gorges, where the water was swift and had sufficient force to sweep away any works the intelligent animals might erect, they sought the points where reefs of rock of extraordinary hardness had withstood the gouging of ice and wear of water. These reefs, acting as dams, retarded the flow of water sufficiently to allow the sediment to be charged with to be precipitated. This depositing of sediment for many years created a comparatively level tract of land above the reef. Just above this granite point the beavers began work. A deep trench was dug across the valley on the line of the proposed dam. This ditch was invariably sunk through the muck clay or sand, and, in the majority of cases, through the compact gold-bearing gravel. On the uncovered couch of the golden gravel the foundation of the dam was laid. Selecting trees that stood in proper positions, the beavers gnawed them off close to the ground. Judging from the many beaver dams, the animals thoroughly understood the art of felling timber. It is seldom that a tree bearing the marks of their teeth is found outside of the line of their dam. Trees forty feet long and a foot in diameter are not uncommon in these works. The trees, fell into the trench. Muck and clay, bound together with coarse grass, were packed solidly into the trench around the lower logs, making a water-tight foundation for the dam. The upper works were built of small trees, and, in the lower dams, of pine boughs cunningly interwoven. The surface of the dam that was next to the water was covered with a thick, compact layer of clay and muck. The absence of all deciduous woods in the lower dams is marked. The dam finished, the family were established in their home.

Houses—rude mounds of sticks and clay—were built in the slack water. Being surrounded by water, they were safe from the assaults of carnivorous animals during the summer, and, freezing solidly, they successfully resisted all attacks made upon them during the winter. The beavers were safe. They reared their young. The family increased rapidly. More houses were built.

The mountain valley, though apparently level above the dam, actually had a great inclination, and the slack water, though it extended from mountain flank to mountain flank across the valley, did not extend up it more than thirty or forty feet. As the years rolled by, coarse swamp grass and willows sprang into life around the edges of the water. Sand and earth, torn from the mountain sides by the tiny streams of water formed during the rainy periods, and when the snow melted were carried by the creek to the slack water of the dam and there deposited. Gradually—it must have taken many years—the first dam was filled up, and no longer afforded the beavers a safe home. Instead of raising the dam they cut a perpendicular slot in it, so as to drain off the water. Moving up the stream to where the edge of the water was before they cut the dam, they dug another trench, sinking it to the bed rock. The wood of willow bushes appears in this second dam, showing that this wood was established in the country at the time of the building of the second dam.

The second works are always longer than the first and generally higher. Some of them are very extensive. One is 600 feet long and eight feet high, and though probably built many years ago, as great pine trees are now standing on it, it is as solid as on the day it was finished.

The dam completed and the house built, the beavers were again established. Again the deposited sand and earth shoaled them out of their houses. Again they moved up stream. This successive building of dams up stream was carried on until the mouth of the canyon or gorge next above the upper dam forbade further operations. When the last dam was filled up, the formation of the park was complete. The beavers having performed their part in Nature's plans, abandoned the park. Moving up stream to where another reef jutted across the valley, they resumed operations.

It may be that several families of beavers at about the same time, and selecting different reefs for building sites, the formation of the parks in the same valley were simultaneous; but in many cases the upper dam of the upper park is still inhabited by beavers. It is noteworthy that the upper dam of a park, abandoned by beavers is generally intact, showing that the animals realize the uselessness of draining off the water, as they had no suitable ground on which to build another dam.

The works erected by the beavers resulted in the formation of the mountain parks. As affecting the interests of the animals, it has been disastrous. They have been forced to migrate in search of other homes.

Must See the Circus.

You may talk about gala days and fun all you choose to, but you don't know much about it until you have seen a circus in a Mormon town. When old John Robinson's only and supremely isolated world-renowned and universal-defying congress of pink-eyed ponies and measly hyenas

struck Ogden, nobody seemed to know how it happened, but the whole of northern Utah was aflame with the pink sun-bonnets, and bed-tick pantaloons of the Latter-Day Saints. Long before daylight the bull teams and mule loads of polygamous fruit began to deluge the city till Ogden was a vast camping ground and the valley was musical with the neigh of the new colt and the echo of the Mormon spunk. Back around the block extended the long procession of perspiring humanity. They drove into town in every style of conveyance known to modern mechanism and took in the entire show, from the fat woman in the side-show to the negro minstrel performance in the ring at the close of the circus. The immensity of the undertaking may be considered and understood when we stop to think that few of these Mormon patriarchs can load their families into one lumber wagon. What, then, can they do? The children cannot be left at home, for the mothers are determined to see the arenic display and mighty world-defying phalanx of zoological glands and acrobatic genius. There is no alternative but to hitch up the time-honored bull-team and trail-wagons enough to hold the sacred outfit. Western people know that a freighting outfit consists of a large wagon in the lead, with one, two or three trailed after it. The performance at Ogden was postponed thirty minutes for the arrival of one family alone that had been delayed by a hot box. The circus manager estimates that he runs the circus at an expense of \$100 an hour, but when the family got there and he figured up the price of admission, he was ahead \$35.23, to say nothing of peanuts and the minstrel-show receipts.

Laramie Boomerang.

There are now aloft from all parts of the world about fifty ships bound for ports in Oregon and Washington Territory, and which, to a great extent will be utilized to take away the wheat of the present harvest. Of these ships over twenty-four are over 1,000 tons register, ranging all the way from 1,100 to 1,976, which is the register of the new ship Henry Failing, of Philadelphia; the two next largest are the American ship Glendon 1,899 tons, and the Henry Villard (new) 1,553 tons, chartered by the O. R. & N. Co., as is also the ship Robert Dixon, 1,368 tons, and the Wilna, 1,483 tons.

True poetry is a natural gift. It cannot be acquired in schools and colleges, but must be a gift, like the power to move the ears voluntarily, or the acquisition of twins. Twins cannot be secured through study or a knowledge of etymology, syntax or prosody. It is the same with poetry. The true bard is born that way, the same as the Siamese twins. Genius is eccentric sometimes, but it beats the studied effort to draw to a boatful flush. —Bill Nye.

At an agricultural meeting last December an Essex county English gentleman said: "I know of three owners of land in this country who have now no less—I am speaking carefully—than 5,000 acres for which they cannot find tenants." Common laborers are getting from \$2.75 to \$3.25 per week. Essex is one of the "home" counties, as counties around London are called.

A Varied Performance.

Many wonder how Parker's Ginger tonic can perform such varied cures, thinking it essence of ginger, when in fact it is made from many valuable medicines which act beneficially on every diseased organ.

SYMPTOMS OF WORMS.

The countenance is pale and languid, with occasional flashes of a circumscribed spot on one or both cheeks; the eyes become inflamed; the pupils dilated; an acute semicircular pain along the lower eyelid; the nose is irritated, swollen, and sometimes bleeds; a swelling of the upper lip; occasional headache, with lumbrici or the oozing of the eyes; an unusual secretion of saliva; slimy or farrow tongue; hoarseness; cough, particularly in the morning; appetite variable, sometimes voracious, with a growing sensation of the stomach; colic; occasional nausea and vomiting; violent pains throughout the abdomen; bowels irregular at times costive; stools slimy, not unfrequently tinged with blood; belly swollen and hard; uric acid, uric acid, uric acid; cough sometimes dry and convulsive, more or less distressing, with grinding of the teeth; temper variable, but generally irritable.

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In buying Vermifuge be sure you get the genuine DR. C. McLANE'S VERMIFUGE, manufactured by Fleming Bros., 21 Wood Street, Pittsburgh, Pa. The market is full of counterfeits. You will be right if it has the signature of Fleming Bros. and McLane, or if your storekeeper does not have the genuine, please report to us. Send us a three cent stamp for 100—our advertising cards.

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Hostetter's Stomach Bitters extracts its specific ingredients from the most powerful medicinal plants, and is a most genial invigorant, appetizer and aid to secretory organs, and its use has benefited thousands of our countrymen and women who have experienced its effects as aware, but are looked upon by their medical friends. The Bitters also give a healthy stimulus to the urinary organs.

For sale by all Druggists and Dealers generally.

Mothers! Mothers!! Mothers!!!

Are you disturbed at night and broken of your rest by a sick child suffering and crying with the excruciating pain of cutting teeth? It is so, go at once and get a bottle of Mrs. Winslow's Soothing Syrup. It will relieve the poor little sufferer immediately—depend upon it: there is no mistake about it. There is no mother on earth who has ever used it, who will not tell you at once that it will regulate the bowels, and give rest to the mother, and relief and health to the child, operating like magic. It is perfectly safe to use in all cases, and pleasant to the taste, and is the prescription of one of the oldest and best female physicians and nurses in the United States. Sold everywhere, 25 cents a bottle.

A cough, cold or sore throat should be stopped. Neglect frequently results in an incurable lung disease or consumption. Brown's Bronchial Troches do not disorder the stomach like cough syrups and balsams, but act directly on the inflamed parts, allaying irritation, give relief in asthma, bronchitis, coughs, catarrhs, and the throat troubles which singers and public speakers are subject to. For thirty years Brown's bronchial troches have been recommended by physicians, and always give perfect satisfaction. Having been tested by wide and constant use for nearly an entire generation, they have attained well-merited rank among the few staple remedies of our age. Sold at 25 cents a box everywhere.

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THE DELINQUENT TAX ROLL FOR
the year 1881, together with a warrant
from the County Court for the collection of
the same, is in my hands. Delinquent tax-
payers will please settle at once and save
costs.
A. M. TWOMBLY,
Sheriff.

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